

on course to spend more to service our debt to bondholders like China than all of our national defense combined in less than 10 years.

Now, the CBO has projected that we will add almost \$4 trillion to our national debt by the end of this fiscal year. As a result, we put ourselves in a very, very tenuous position. We will exceed, Mr. Speaker, our debt per the size of our economy as it was in World War II, which was the largest debt position we ever held. We will set a very dangerous precedent for the next generation. We will put them in a very, very bad position.

So, SCOTT PETERS and I got 30 Democrats and 30 Republicans, and we picked a few budget reforms that would put us in a place and force Congress to reduce our debt and hand this country in a better fiscal position to our children.

We sent a letter with these three initiatives and reforms to our leadership. We are imploring all of our colleagues and leadership from both Houses: Please seize this opportunity to include these budget process reforms so that, when we get through this crisis, we won't have to endure the ultimate crisis.

We will not, Mr. Speaker, be able to bail out of that, print money, or borrow enough. It will be a disaster of epic proportions, so I implore my colleagues to please support budget process reforms in this next COVID legislation.

CALLING ON SENATE REPUBLICANS TO FUND SCHOOLS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of the public schools in Macomb and Oakland Counties.

In between votes earlier this week, I hosted a Zoom call with the superintendents in my district. I was struck by how much they figured out in such a short time about operating a school during a pandemic.

Educators are nimble and creative. They are used to doing a lot with a little. The PPE, the cleaning, the social distancing, the technology needs, and the social and emotional health, they are up for figuring it all out on top of already having one of the hardest jobs there is.

The problem is, they don't have a fraction of the resources they need to put their plans into place. While they have spent their summer days and probably fitful nights determining how to keep their students, educators, and other school professionals safe, this administration has offered no plan other than: Reopen or else.

As a father of four, as a lifetime advocate for and product of public schools, as a union organizer with worker safety top of mind, and as a human being with compassion and common sense, I am calling on the Senate to offer a real plan in this next re-

lief package, one that acknowledges that we must contain this pandemic and provide schools with the resources they need to reopen safely.

It has been nearly 10 weeks since the House passed the HEROES Act to put us on a path required to reengage our schools and the economy as a whole safely.

Mr. Speaker, 59,679 Americans have perished from COVID-19 since May 15 when the House passed the HEROES Act, yet here we are, still trying to push public health common sense uphill in the face of denial, politicization, and the most disastrous vacuum of leadership in modern times.

The HEROES Act directs more than \$100 billion in emergency education funding to cover unexpected costs and \$75 billion for COVID-19 testing and contact tracing, including key provisions of the coronavirus containment corps legislation I wrote with Senator ELIZABETH WARREN.

What has happened in the intervening 10 weeks with their 60,000 deaths? The need has not only grown; it has doubled. Just this week, national health organizations and child advocates, led by the American Academy of Pediatrics, wrote to House and Senate leadership, calling on Congress to pass at least \$200 billion in K-12 education funding. Meanwhile, Senate Republicans have met this growing need with the inaction we have come to expect: ignoring this proposal.

What is even more dangerous, Trump and DeVos threaten to strip funding from public schools, a threat they have no authority to fulfill unless they put students in the classroom full-time even as daily cases are higher than they were when schools went online in the first place during the spring.

Nowhere is this more dangerous than in our communities of color, where schools are disproportionately underfunded even in normal times. These are some of the same communities that have been the hardest hit by the coronavirus and may need more time to reopen safely. If we are at long last serious about racial justice, we must offer resources and flexibility, not ultimatums.

Senate Republicans can choose to be redefined by the vanity projects of a President only concerned with pretending this virus is over and a Secretary of Education continuing her lifelong crusade to defund public schools and even spreading outright falsehoods, such that children are stoppers of COVID-19, or they can do their job: represent the educators, school professionals, parents, and students in their States by doing what is in the best interest of the health and safety of our citizens.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO OFFER RESOLUTION RAISING A QUESTION OF THE PRIVILEGES OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 3 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to clause 2(a)(1) of rule IX, I rise to give notice of my intention to raise a question of the privileges of the House with the form of the resolution to be as follows.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman will suspend. This is not in order during morning hour.

Mr. GOHMERT. My understanding is that the rules allow any time a Member is properly recognized to speak that that privileged resolution then takes priority over all other business at that point.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The House has not convened for legislative business for the day; therefore, the gentleman's motion is not recognized for that purpose.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I will wait for 1 minutes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Does the gentleman yield back?

Mr. GOHMERT. Yes.

REMEMBERING CONGRESSMAN JOHN LEWIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) for 1 minute.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember John Lewis, our colleague, our friend, our inspiration.

In life, you are blessed if the chance comes to cross paths with those history has anointed to be great difference-makers in the journey towards a more compassionate and just world. I will forever be grateful for the last 14 years. I had the opportunity to serve with this extraordinary man, to witness his commitment to improving the lives of every American.

Mr. Speaker, I had the privilege to work closely with John in our efforts to clear a path to the ballot box, to insist on accountability and transparency in government, and to push back on the influence of money and special interests in our politics.

Whatever the issue, whatever the struggle, John Lewis' exhortation to us was consistent: "Keep your eyes on the prize." "Never give up" and "never give in."

We carry his legacy forward—his struggle for voting rights, civil rights, and human rights, for the voiceless, for a democracy that respects the people and lifts our Nation.

His struggle is our struggle, and we will keep marching, knowing that he is at our side.

May his memory be eternal.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair